

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 1-3, 5-6, 15 and 27-28 are pending in this application.

Request for Interview:

Applicant would greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss the present application with the Examiner during an interview. In particular, Applicant would greatly appreciate the opportunity to discuss the present claim amendments with the Examiner. The Examiner is thus respectfully requested to contact the undersigned after review of the present claim amendments.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1-5, 15-16 and 21-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Nagasawa (U.S. '281) in view of Nishiyama (U.S. 2003/0060287). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to still pending claims 1-3, 5 and 15.

In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, all of the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art and there must be some suggestion or motivation either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings.

The combination of Nagasawa and Nishiyama fails to teach or suggest, the following limitations of claim 1 and its dependents, "a key register to which first information is set in response to an operation of said play key and second information is set in response to an operation of said interruption key; wherein said game related process includes a game process to play said game when said first information is set into said key

register and an interruption process to interrupt said game process when said second information is set into said key register; and said phone related process includes a setting process to set said second information into said key register when an incoming phone call is detected.”

Independent claim 1 thus requires second information being set in the same key register in response to operation of an interruption key as well as in response to detection of an incoming phone call. The combination of Nagasawa and Nishiyama fails to teach this limitation. The second information has a meaning based on the detection of an incoming call in addition to a meaning based on the operation of an interruption key. The same key register is also set with first information in response to operation of a play key for playing a game by a game process. This game process may be interrupted when the second information is set into the key register.

Setting the second information in the same key register in response to the interruption key operation or incoming call detection provides the benefit of the present invention in which a game process may be interrupted in response to an incoming call even if a conventional game program (program which already sets a value in a register in response to user selection of an interruption key) is used without modifying the code of the conventional game program. (See, e.g., page 2, lines 7-12, page 3, lines 7-14 and page 44, line 24 to page 45, line 5 of the substitute specification). This benefit is not appreciated by Nagasawa and/or Nishiyama.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-5 and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Nagasawa in view of Nishiyama and further in view of Simon et al (U.S. publication no.

OKADA et al.
Application No. 09/994,914
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2003/0087652, hereinafter "Simon"). Since claim 6 depends from claim 1, all of the comments made above with respect to the combination of Nagasawa and Nishiyama in regards to claim 1 apply equally to claim 6. Applicant respectfully submits that Simon fails to remedy the above described deficiencies of Nagasawa and Nishiyama. Applicant thus respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

New Claims:

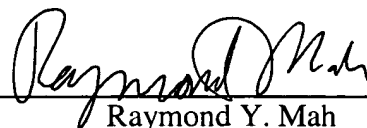
New claims 27-28 have been added to provide additional protection for the invention. Since claims 27-28 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1, Applicant submits that these claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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